



Medical & Recreational Marijuana

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Faculty Disclosure

- Consulting Fee: HealthXL, Speranza
- Other: Expert Witness—Cardinal Health

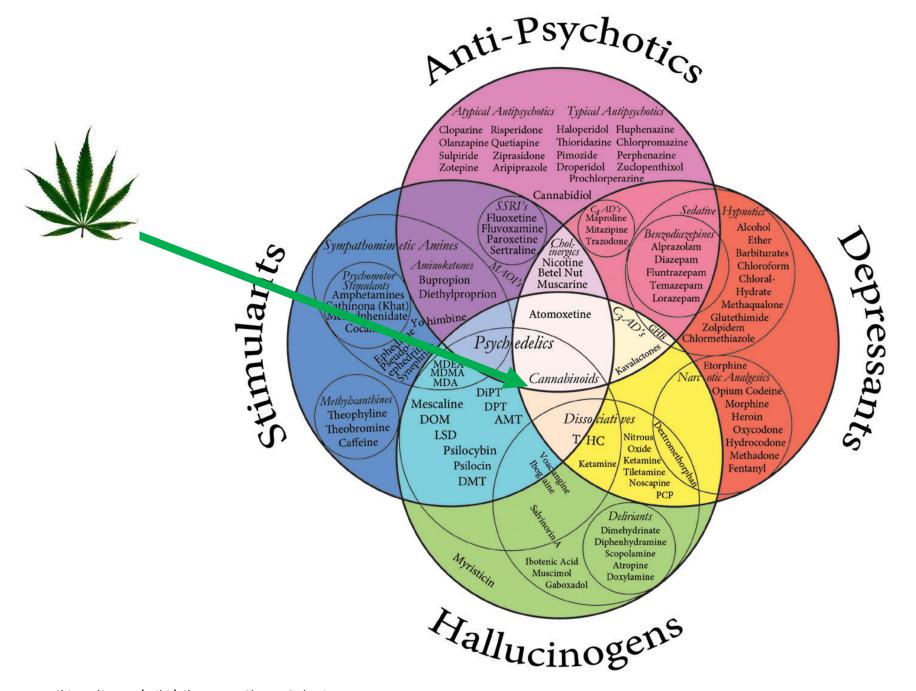
This presentation was not a part of the presenter's official duties at the WVU and does not represent the opinion of WVU



Learning Objectives

- Identify the four main pharmacological properties of substances that are conducive to substance abuse.
- Distinguish the most common THC product formulations including combustibles, edibles, resin, and extracts based on pharmacological properties.
- Recall the pharmacological properties of various illegal synthetic cannabinoids with particular attention to the structural similarities to NSAID medications.





Substances of Abuse: Controlled Substance Classes

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE CLASS	SUBSTANCES	
C-I	Heroin, LSD, Marijuana , MDMA, & PCP	
C-II	Cocaine, Fentanyl, & Methamphetamine	
C-III	Ketamine	
C-IV	Benzodiazepines	
C-V	Promethazine with Codeine	

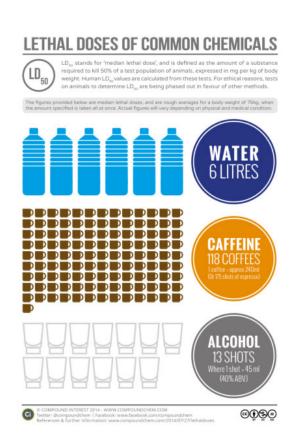


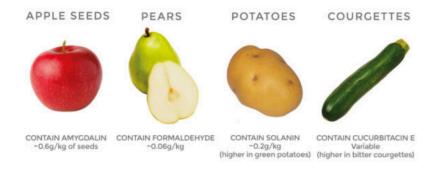
Bad Drugs (Good Medicines?)

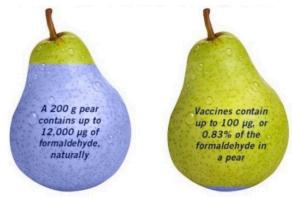
- Stimulants (cocaine, amphetamines, etc)
- Hallucinogens
- Cannabis/cannabinoids
- Opioids
- General sedatives (GABA-related, etc)
- Alcohol
- Nicotine/tobacco
- Inhalants
- COMBINATIONS (polypharmacy or "PolyStreet")

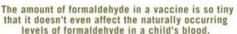


It's All About the Dosage, Baby!









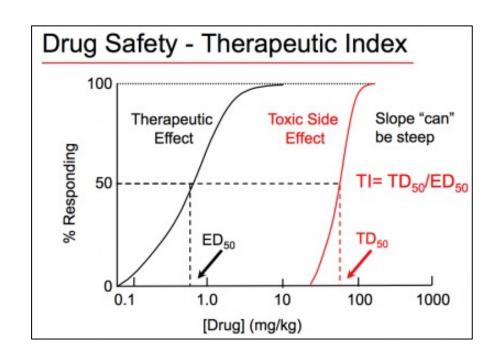


"All things are poison and nothing is without poison; only the dose makes a thing not a poison."

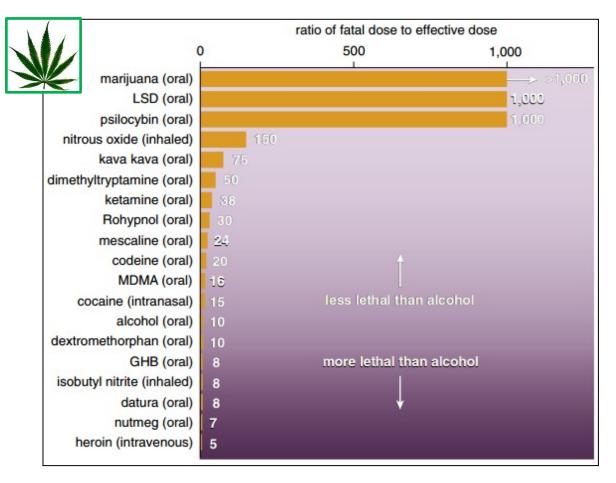
www.chemicalsafetyfacts.org/dose-makes-poison-gallery/.



Therapeutic Index Substances of Abuse



Toxicity of Recreational Drugs. Am Sci. 2006;94:206-208.





Substance Safety Ratios						
Substance	Effective Dose	Lethal Dose	Safety Ratio	Dependence Potential		
Opioids	Opioids					
Heroin (IV)	8 mg	50 mg	6	Very high		
Morphine (PO)	20 mg	300 mg	15	High		
Sedatives						
Barbiturates Pentobarbital (PO)	250 mg	5 g	20	Moderate/high		
Benzodiazepines Rohypnol (PO)	1 mg	30 mg	30	Moderate		
Alcohol Ethanol (PO)	30 mg ³	300 mg	10	Moderate		
Stimulants						
Caffeine (PO)	100 mg	10 g	100	Moderate/low		
Cocaine (IN)	80 mg	1.2 g	15	Moderate/high		
MDMA (PO)	125 mg	2 g	16	Moderate/low		
Nicotine (INH)	1 mg	50 mg	50	High		
Hallucinogens						
Ketamine (IV)	70 mg	2.7 g	38	Low		
Nitrous oxide (INH)	3.5 liters	525 liters	150	Moderate/low		
LSD (PO)	100 mcg	100 mg	1000	Very low		
Mescaline (PO)	350 mg	8.4 g	24	Very low		
Psilocybin (PO)	6 mg	6 g	1,000	Very low		
Cannabis						
Marijuana (INH)	15 mg	> 15 g	> 1,000	Moderate/low		

Gable. Drugs Soc. U.S. Public Policy. 2006:149-162. politicsofsin.50megs.com/risk/Safety.Ratio-Dependence.Potential-Psychoactive.Drugs.html.

StreetTalk Meets PharmTalk

Pharmacological Properties Conducive to Substance Abuse

- High C_{max} (large peak)
- Quick T_{max} (fast onset)
- Receptor affinity (stronger magnet)
- Dopamine release (euphoria)

I Want It ALL

I Want It NOW

I Want Nothing Else

Ahhhhhh

Lebin. PharmEpi Drug Safety. 2019;28:15-20.



Poison Center

1-800-222-1222







www.poison.org/.



Just Say NO



www.scientificamerican.com/article/why-just-say-no-doesnt-work/.



7th Grade Spelling Bee Loss







Just Say KNOW

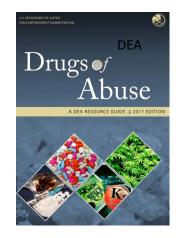


www.scientificamerican.com/article/why-just-say-no-doesnt-work/.



Resources Concentrating on Illicit Substances

















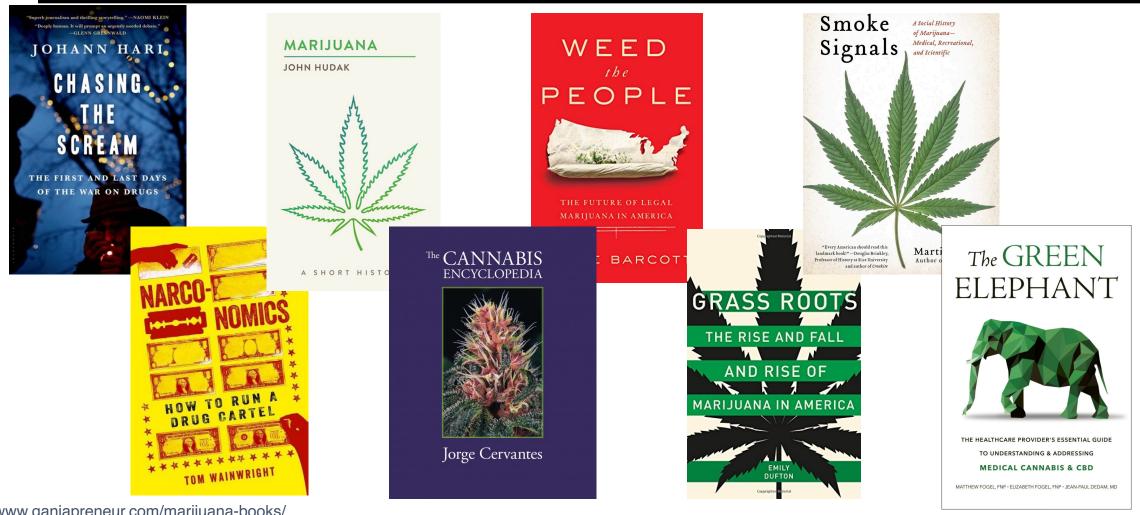








Papyrus Pot



www.ganjapreneur.com/marijuana-books/.



Marijuana Media













2005 1936

connect-bridgeport.com/connect.cfm?func=view§ion=News&item=An-Appearance-on-Netflixs-Recovery-Boys-Documentary-Allows-BHS-Alumnua-Kelsey-Fogg-to-Share-Her-Own-Story-of-Recovery31591.

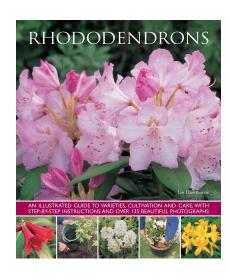


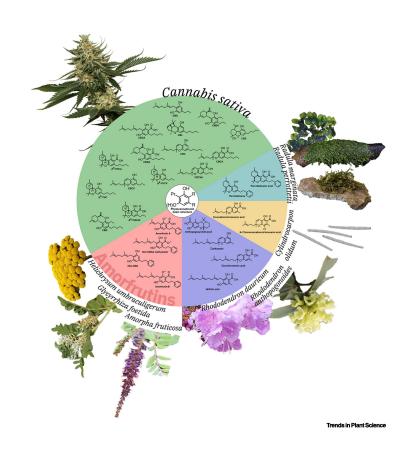
MEDICINAL MELODIES					
Substances of Abuse	Song	Artist			
DXM	Like a G6	Far East Movement			
MDMA	We Can't Stop	Miley Cyrus			
	We Found Love (Yellow Diamonds)	Rihanna			
Cocaine	Master of Puppets	Metallica			
	Cocaine	Eric Clapton			
	Snow (Hey Oh)	Red Hot Chili Peppers			
Meth(amphetamine)	Semi-Charmed Life	Third Eye Blind			
Heroin	Mr. Brownstone	Guns N' Roses			
	Mother's Little Helper				
	Brown Sugar	The Rolling Stones			
	Sister Morphine				
Marijuana	Hits from the Bong	Cypress Hill			
	Because I Got High	Afroman			
	Gin & Juice	Snoop Dogg			
	How High	Redman & Method Man			
	Mary Jane	Rick James			
	Dooo It	Miley Cyrus			

Recreational and "Medical" Cannabis Coexisting



Nature and Cannabinoids







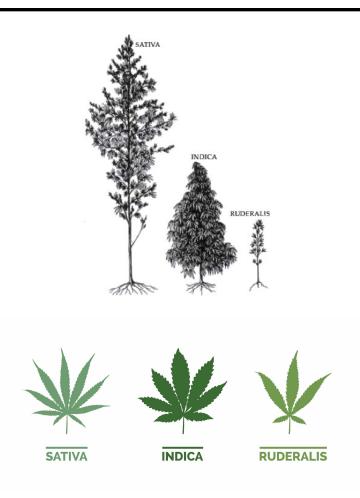
Echinacea

Trends Plant Sci. 2020:25985-1004DOI. Gertsch. Br J Pharmacol. 2010;160:523-529.



Cannabis Plants





www.amaweed.com/en/blog/what-s-the-real-difference-between-hemp-and-weed/.



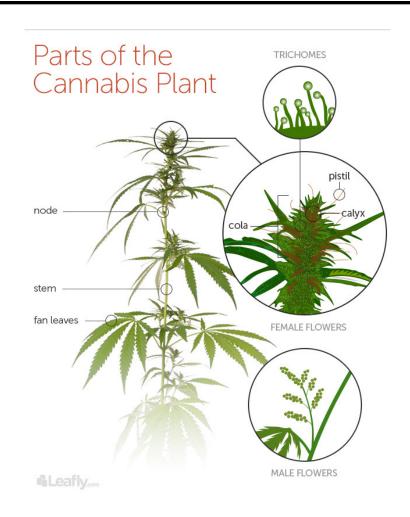
The Cannabis Plant

- THC cultivation
 - Low grade: male and female plants
 - Med grade: fertilized females
 - High grade: isolated females
- Sinsemilla: "without seeds"

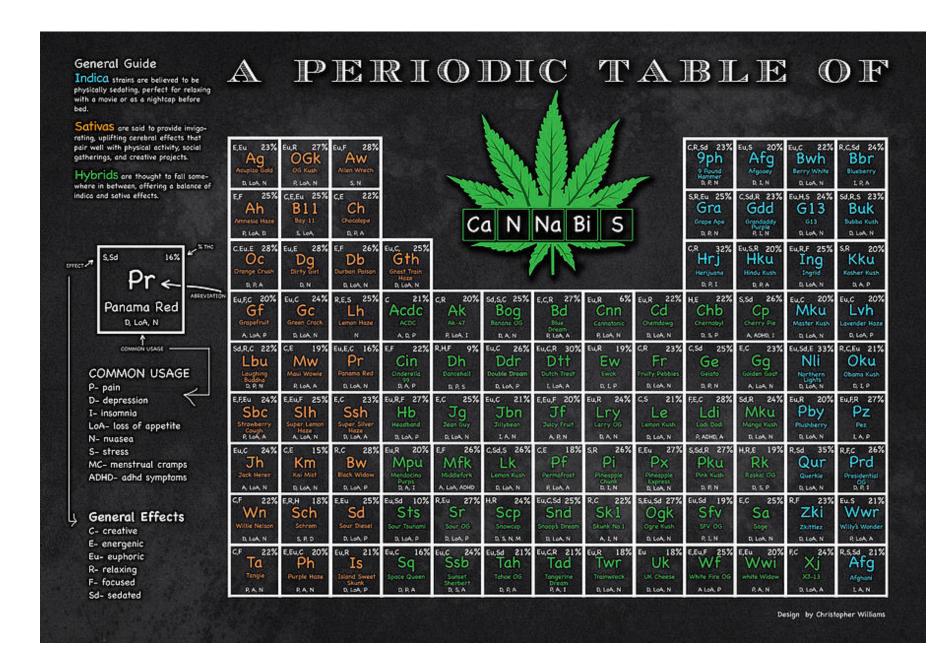




Punja. *Front Plant Sci.* 2020;June 25. www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/sinsemilla.



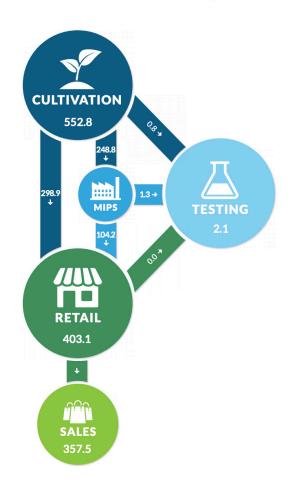




pain.sh/98b571

Marijuana Flower Testing and Sales

Transfer Flows of Flower Equivalent, 2019

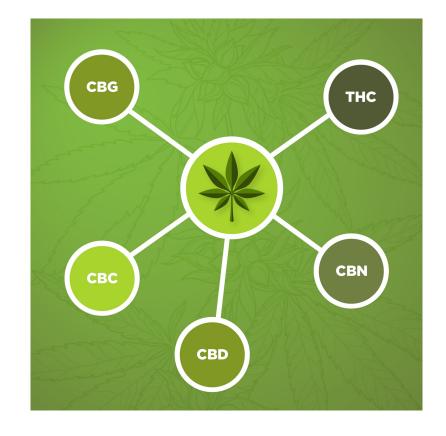


Then again, are FDA-approved products retested at a greater frequency?



Colorada government. pain.sh/98b571.

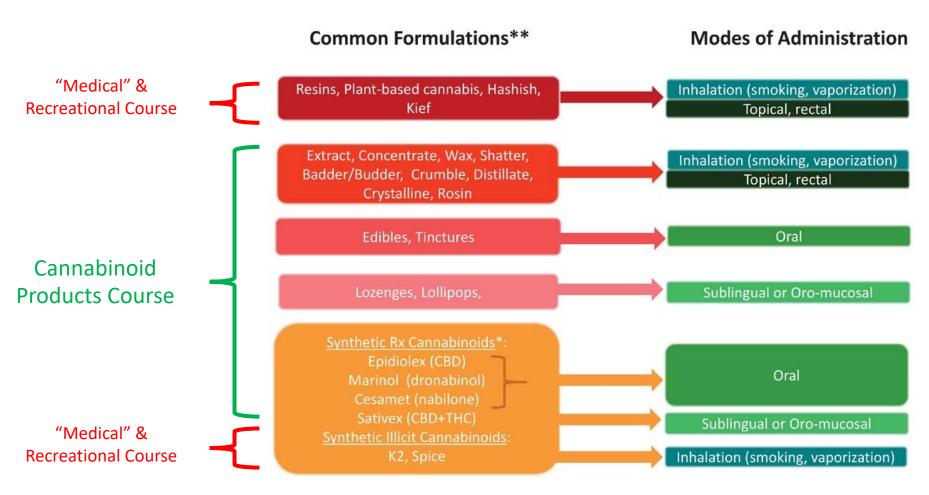




Cannabinoids



Cannabis Formulations and Administrations



Page. Circulation. 2020;142(10):e131-e152.



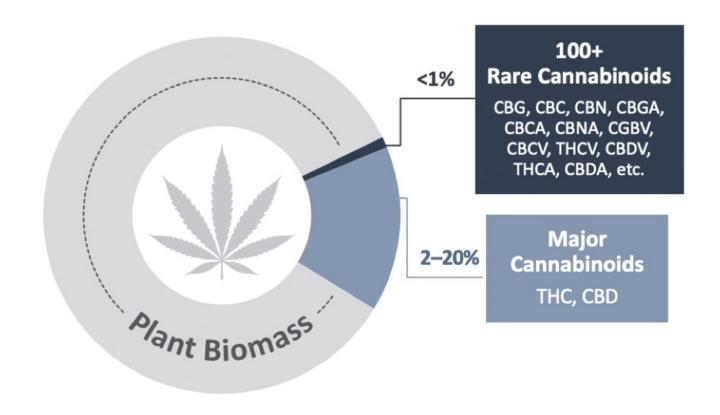
Cannabis Biosynthesis and Conversion of Cannabinoids

- CBGA: cannabigerolic acid
- CBG: cannabigerol
- CBDA: cannabidiolic acid
- CBD: cannabidiol
- THCA: tetrahydrocannabinolic acid
- THC: tetrahydrocannabinol
- CBN: cannabinol
- CBDV: cannabidivarin

www.researchgate.net/figure/Major-cannabinoids-present-in-Cannabis-sativa-L-Biosynthesis-and-conversion-pathways_fig1_332566538.



A Pot Full of Cannabinoids



www.inmedpharma.com/media-news/cannabinol-101-the-science-of-cannabinol-cbn/.



- Δ9—tetrahydrocannabinol
 - Δ8–tetrahydrocannabinol also exists
- Mechanism of action
 - CB1 partial agonist

- Δ9-THC

 H

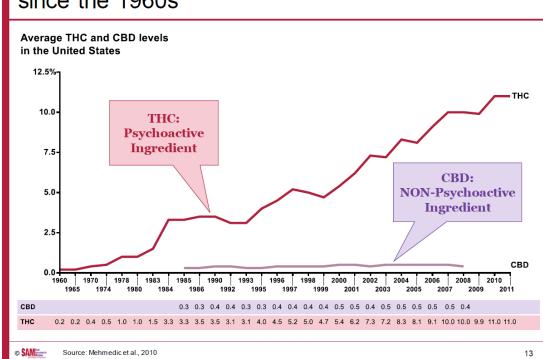
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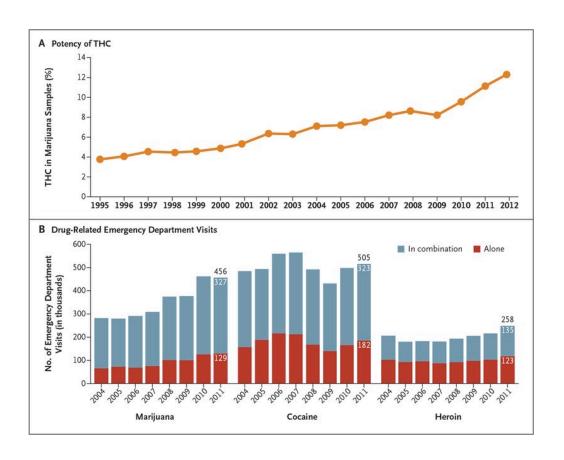
 Δ8-Th
- Inhalation: immediate absorption
- Oral ingestion: effects delayed (30 minutes to 1 hour)
- Highly lipophilic
 - Distributing rapidly to highly perfused tissues, and later to fat tissue



Trends: THC Potency and Emergency Room Visits

Marijuana has become significantly more potent since the 1960s





Volkow. N Engl J Med. 2014;370:2219-2227.



Marijuana THC Potency

- Typical joint: 0.5 grams of marijuana
 - 1960's to 1980's joint (2% THC) → 10 mg THC per joint
 - 2020's joint (10% THC) \rightarrow 50 mg THC per joint
 - 2020's extracts (90% THC) → 450 mg THC (relatively)
- One nabiximols spray: 2.7 mg THC and 2.5 mg CBD
- Cocaine: coca leaf vs crack
- Nicotine: FDA considering reducing tobacco nicotine concentrations
- Ethyl alcohol ABV: difference between beer/wine (4) and bourbon (40)
- Opioid MME factors: codeine (0.15) vs carfentanyl (10,000)

Volkow. N Engl J Med. 2014;370:2219-2227.

nypost.com/2019/02/11/mike-tyson-smokes-huge-joint-at-weed-festival/.

Stuyt. Mo Med. 2018;115(6):482-486.

Dumont. Ned Tijdschr Geneeskd. 2020;164:D4578.





Timing of Effects

- Inhalation
 - Immediate absorption
 - Peak 15 to 30 minutes
 - Taper off in 2 to 3 hours
- Oral ingestion
 - Effects delayed (30 minutes to 1 hour)
 - Peak 2 to 3 hours
 - Taper off in ~12 hours



Horn. Drug Interactions with Marijuana. *Pharmacy Times*. Dec 2014. Bridgeman. *P T*. 2017;42(3):180-188.



Marijuana THC Absorption

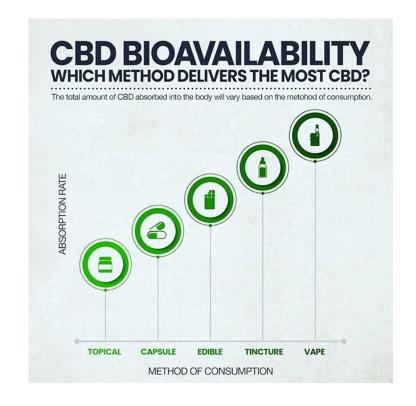
■ Cigarette: 10% to 20%

■ Pipe: 40% to 50%

■ Water pipe (bong): ~100%

■ Vape: ~100% (no smoke irritation)

➤ Edibles.....delayed ~1 hour



Mayo Clinic Proceedings 2019;94:1840-1851. www.practicalpainmanagement.com/treatments/pharmacological/how-communicate-medical-marijuana-dispensary.



Combustible Products

Joint

- Small and portable
- Cannabis rolled up inside a thin rolling paper
- Often have a crutch, or filter, which adds stability to the roll and allows smoking to the end without burning fingertips

Blunt

- A roll with cannabis inside a cigar or blunt wrap
- Wraps are made out of tobacco (stimulant effect)
- Typically, bigger than joints and last a lot longer

Spliff

- Like a joint, but has tobacco and cannabis mixed together in a rolling paper, typically with a crutch/filter
- Allows personalization of tobacco:cannabis ratio
- Europe: "joint" refers to cannabis/tobacco combo (eg, joining)

www.leafly.com/news/cannabis-101/whats-the-difference-between-joints-blunts-and-spliffs.



Combustible Products

- Paper
 - Amount of cannabis
 - Size of the paper
 - Flavor
 - Tobacco papers are notably sweeter than hemp paper
 - Burn
 - Thicker papers burn slower than thinner papers
 - Hemp, rice, paper, etc
- Paper protectors
 - Enable travel with papers for future rolling





www.leafly.com/news/cannabis-101/whats-the-difference-between-joints-blunts-and-spliffs.



Hashish and Hash Oil/Extracts

- Hashish
 - Isolated marijuana resin
 - Dark colored gummy balls



- Hash oil and extracts
 - 1. Boil plant
 - 2. Filter out solids
 - 3. Vaporize all water
 - 4. Leaving hash oil







www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/hashish.. en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Hash_oil&oldid=1043980711.



Can you SPOT the POT?











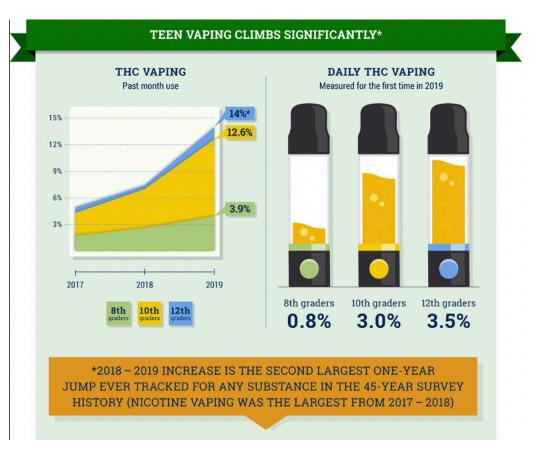






Teen Vaping





www.drugabuse.gov/drug-topics/trends-statistics/infographics/monitoring-future-2019-survey-results-vaping. www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2019/12/vaping-of-marijuana-on-the-rise-among-teens.



History Repeating Itself...



















ABInBev







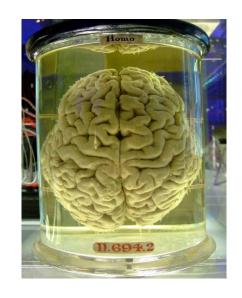
Laced Marijuana

Love Boat: Marijuana laced with formaldehyde

KD: Marijuana or tobacco laced with bug spray (pyrethroids)

When you're out of papers and your bowl is broken









www.indystar.com/story/news/crime/2018/03/18/think-what-its-doing-your-brain-using-bug-spray-get-high/426668002/.



Street Synthetic Marijuana



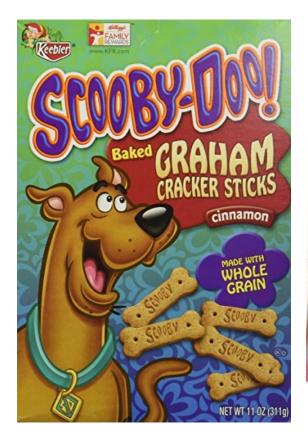
Street Synthetic Marijuana Nicknames

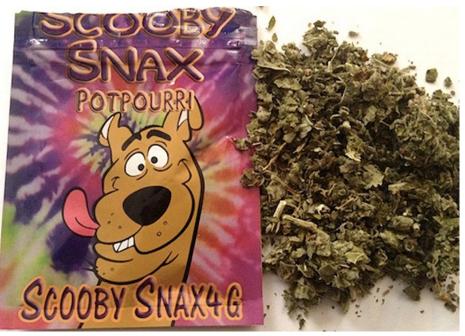


- Scooby Snax
- K2
- Spice
- Legal Funk
- Arizona
- Black Mamba
- Bombay Blue
- Genie
- Banana Ice Cream
- Nuke
- Krypton
- Lava Red

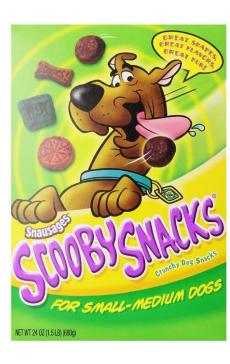


The Scooby Snack Market





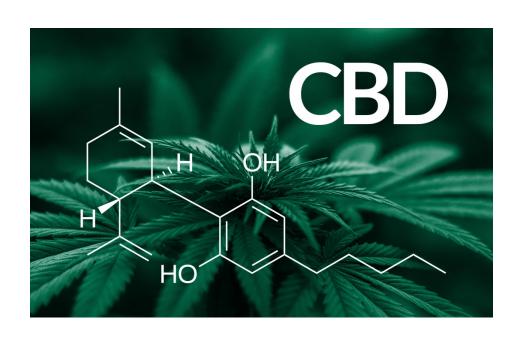






CBD Derivatives

- Hydrogenated
- Dimethylheptyl (DMH)
- C4'-alkyl chain modifications
- Halogenated (CI, Br, FI, & I)
- Hydroxyl
- Diacetylated
- Quinones





Hydrogenated

CB1 and CB2 Agonists (Preferential to CB1)

Morales. Front Pharmacol. 2017;8:422.



Dimethylheptyl (DMH)

- DMH improves CB1 receptor affinity
- HU-308/422: peripheral CB₂-selective agonists

Morales. Front Pharmacol. 2017;8:422.

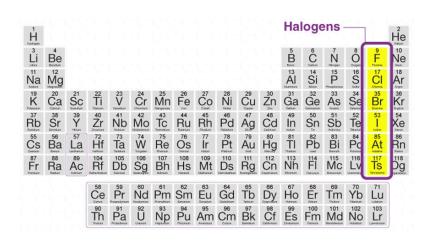


C4'-Alkyl Chain Modifications

- Structural modifications change "drug-likeness"
 - # H-bond donors, acceptors, and polar surface area
- KLS-13019
 - 50x potency and 400x safety compared to CBD

Halogenated (F, Cl, Br, and I)

- Mono-halogenated
 - Activity similar to CBD
- Di-halogenated
 - Lower activity than CBD



HUF-101

Morales. Front Pharmacol. 2017;8:422.

Painweek

Hydroxyl

Improved solubility, stability, and bioavailability parameters compared to CBD

Diacetylated

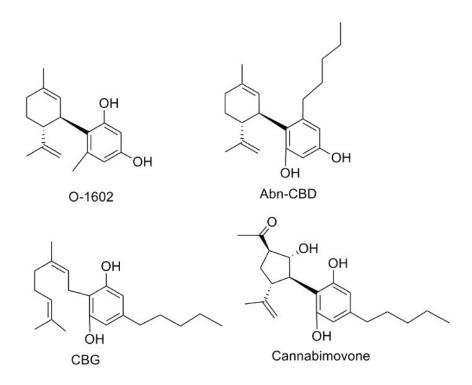
- Safety, efficiency, and potency of these 4 compounds were lower than that of CBD
- Diacetylated CBDs could potentially act as "prodrugs" to CBD (via deacetylation)

Quinones

- PPARγ agonists
- Studied in cancer treatment

Miscellaneous

- O-1602
 - GPR18 Biased Agonist (possibly GPR 55)
- Abn-CBD
 - Possible targets: GPR55 and GPR18
- CBG
 - Cannabinoid precursor
- Cannabimovone
 - Weak TPRV1 agonist



THC Derivatives

- 1st Generation
 - Sterling-Winthrop Aminoalkylindoles (WIN-X)
 - John Williams Huffman (JWH-X)
 - Hebrew University (HU-X)
 - Charles Pfizer (CP-X)

2nd Generation

- Alkyl derivatives
- N-methylpiperidines
- Benzoindoles

3rd Generation

- Indoles
- Indazoles



Sterling-Winthrop Aminoalkylindoles (WIN-X)

Win 48,098 (pravadoline)

- 1st of the researched analgesics distinct from opioid/COX activity
- NSAID structure (~indomethacin)
- Morpholinoethyl group binds to CB receptors similar to THC
- Research dropped due to nephrotoxicity and stigma of cannabinoid activity

WIN 55,212-2

- CB1 agonist
- Research dropped due to nephrotoxicity and stigma of cannabinoid activity

WIN 55,225 (JWH-200)

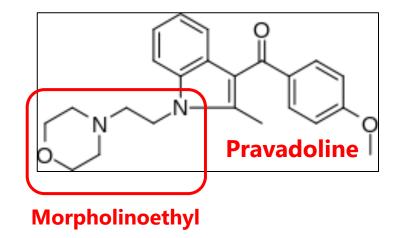
CB1 agonist

WIN 54,461 (6-bromopravadoline)

CB2 agonist

WIN 56,098

- CB2 antagonist
- Tricyclic aryl derivative



Are NSAIDs Cannabinoid Cousins ???

Mayo Clinic Proceedings. 2019;94:1840-1851. Wiley. Methods Rep RTI Press. 2011;Nov:17971.



John Williams Huffman (JWH-X)

- John William Huffman synthesized numerous cannabinoids
- JWH-018
 - Synthesized in 1984
 - Clemson University
 - 1-pentyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole
 - Also referred to as AM-678
 - Naphthoylindole analgesic
 - CB1 and CB2 agonist



Mayo Clinic Proceedings. 2019;94:1840-1851

Hebrew University (HU-X)

HU-210

- (-) Enantiomer of 11-OH-D8-THC-DMH
- Cannabinoid (CB-1 agonist)
- Potent analgesic

HU-211 (Dexanabinol)

- (+) Enantiomer of 11-OH-D8-THC-DMH
- Not an active cannabinoid
- Acts as an NMDA antagonist
- ➤ Both HU-210 and HU-211 are unique synthetic cannabinoids that are actually very structurally similar to THC

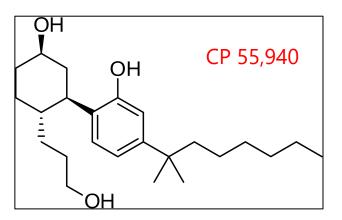
Mayo Clinic Proceedings. 2019;94:1840-1851. Wilson. Cell Biol Int. 1996;20(2):147-157.

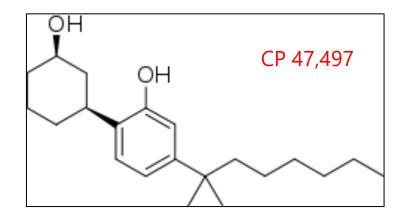


Charles Pfizer (CP-X)

- CP 55,940
 - Cyclohexylphenol
 - Pfizer developed in 1974

- CP 47,497
 - Pfizer developed in 1980's
 - Potent CB1 agonist
 - "Spice" ingredient





Mayo Clinic Proceedings. 2019;94:1840-1851. Cohen. Brain Sci. 2018;8(3):40.



2nd Generation

Alkyl derivatives

- AM-2201, MAM-2201, and AM-694
 - Alexandros Makriyannis (1st scientist to synthesize)

N-methylpiperidines

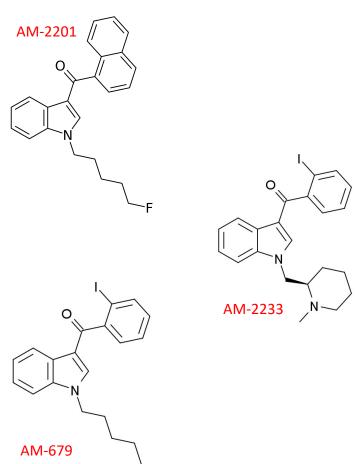
AM-2233 and AM-1220

Benzoindoles

www.sciencedirect.com/topics/neuroscience/am-2201.

AM-679 and RCS-4

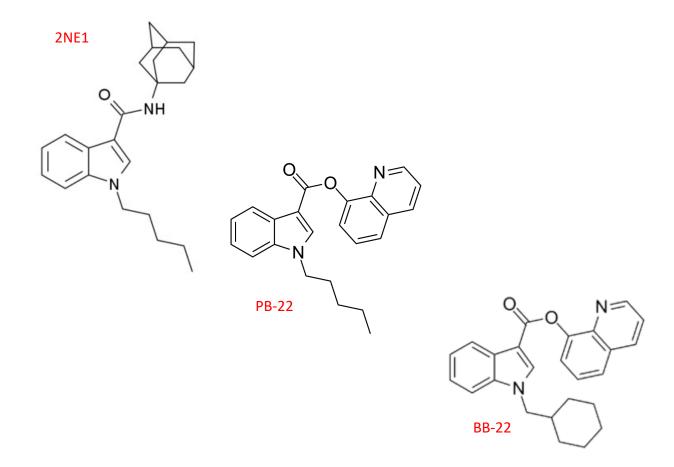
AM-679 Mayo Clinic Proceedings. 2019;94:1840-1851.



3rd Generation

Indoles

- 2NE1/APICA/SDB-001
 - 2NE1: North Korean Girl Band
- PB-22 (QUPIC)
- BB-22 (QUCHIC)

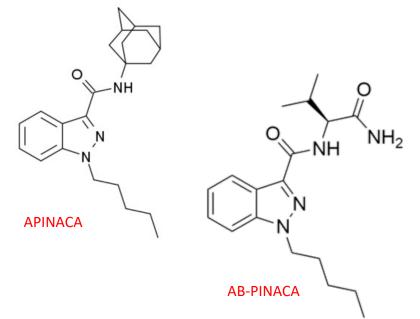


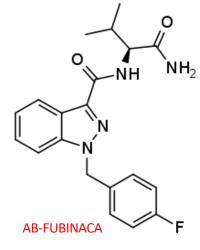
Mayo Clinic Proceedings. 2019;94:1840-1851. Uchiyama. Forensic Toxicol. 2013;31:223-240.

3rd Generation

Indazoles

- AKB-48/APINACA
 - AKB48: Japanese Girl Band
- AB-PINACA
- AB-FUBINACA
 - CB1 agonist (Pfizer, 2009)





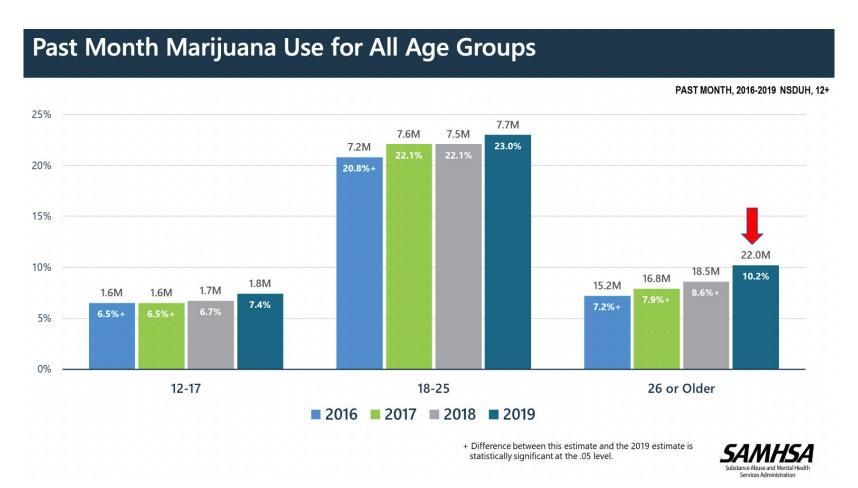
Mayo Clinic Proceedings. 2019;94:1840-1851.



Cannabis Utilization



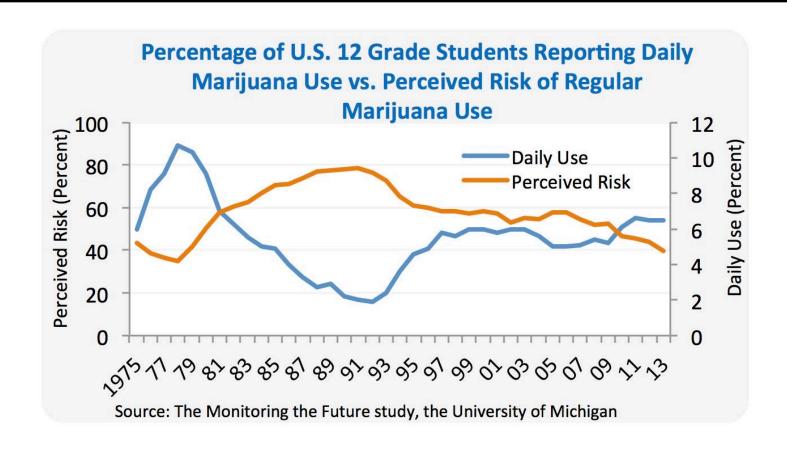
Marijuana Use



National Survey on Drug Use. SAMHSA. 2019.



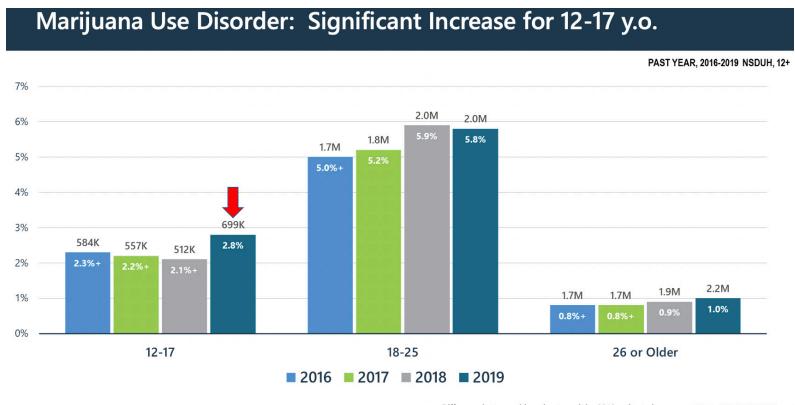
Marijuana Utilization vs Perceived Risk



www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2019/12/vaping-of-marijuana-on-the-rise-among-teens.



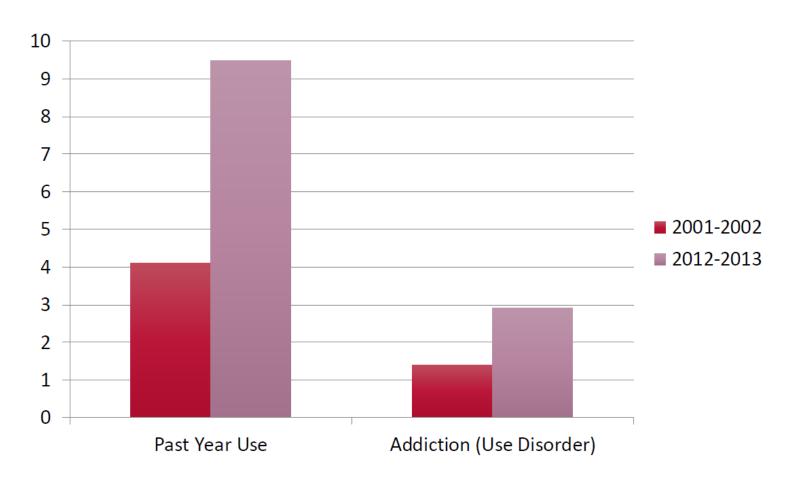
Marijuana Use Disorder



National Survey on Drug Use. SAMHSA 2019.



Marijuana Use and Addiction (2001 to 2013)

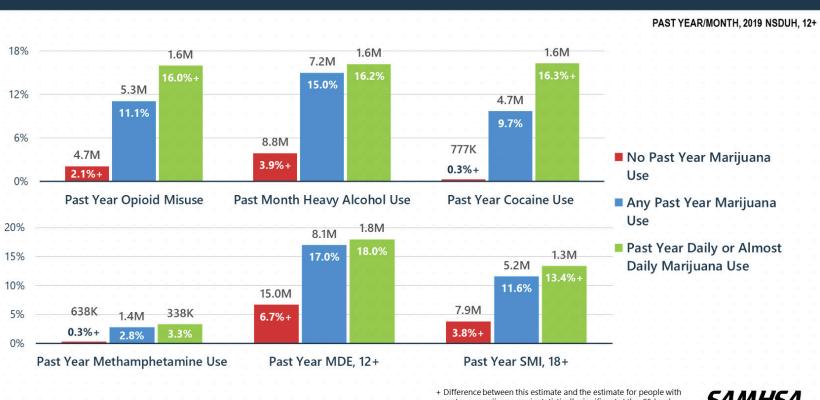


Hasin. JAMA Psychiatry. 2015;72(12):1235-1242.



"Street" Polypharmacy

Marijuana Use Related to Other Substance Use, MDE and SMI



National Survey on Drug Use. SAMHSA 2019.



There's No "I" in Pill ???

- Opioid addiction → buprenorphine, methadone, and/or naltrexone (HAT?)
- Alcohol addiction → naltrexone, disulfiram, or acamprosate (hospital beer?)
- Cocaine/meth addiction → ? (naltrexone, bupropion, Rx amphetamines?)
- Cannabis addiction → ? (more cannabis/cannabinoids, nabiximols?)
- ➤ All of the above → psychological treatment (teamwork)

National Survey on Drug Use. SAMHSA 2019.

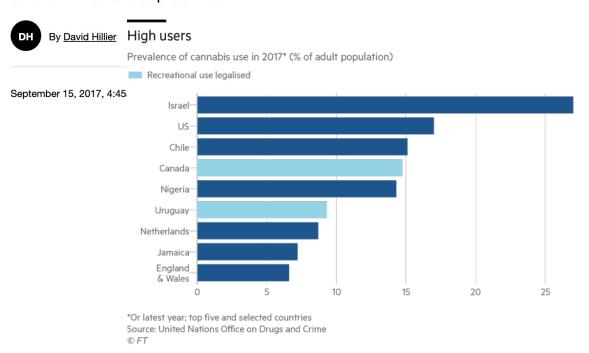


Many Substances, Many Problems, Few Solutions

Is All Substance Use Always a Problem?

The Secret Lives of Functioning Heroin Users

"I use on a lunchtime at work, only a couple of lines or so, which I smoke in the handicap bathroom."







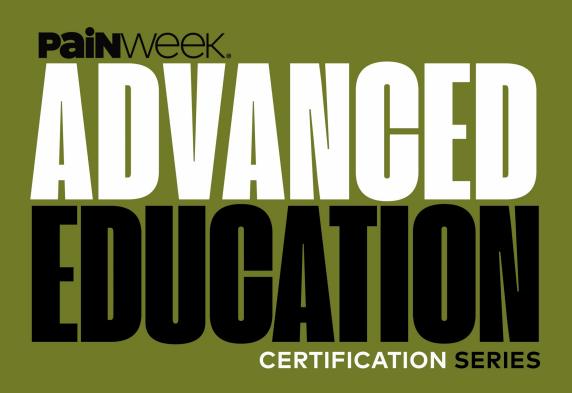
Yep, that's Bayer's Heroin!

Between 1890 and 1910 heroin was sold as a non-addictive substitute for morphine.

It was also used to treat children. suffering with a cough.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=gPzP7_OBR_8. www.ft.com/content/f9d61f58-d78c-11e8-ab8e-6be0dcf18713. www.vice.com/en/article/3kanzw/the-secret-lives-of-functioning-heroin-users. www.verywellmind.com/what-not-to-say-to-someone-who-smokes-marijuana-67777.







Medical & Recreational Marijuana

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